



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 5358

February Session, 2004

* HB05358LM 040204 *

**AN ACT ESTABLISHING AN INTERAGENCY TASK FORCE ON
TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2004*) (a) There is established
2 an interagency task force on trafficking in persons. For the purposes of
3 this section, "trafficking" means all acts involved in the recruitment,
4 abduction, transport, harboring, transfer, sale or receipt of persons,
5 within national or across international borders, through force,
6 coercion, fraud or deception, to place persons in situations of slavery
7 or slavery-like conditions, forced labor or services, such as forced
8 prostitution or sexual services, domestic servitude, bonded sweatshop
9 labor or other debt bondage.

10 (b) The task force shall consist of the following members or their
11 designees:

12 (1) The Attorney General;

13 (2) The Chief State's Attorney;

14 (3) The Chief Public Defender;

15 (4) The Commissioner of Public Safety;

16 (5) The Labor Commissioner;

- 17 (6) The Commissioner of Social Services;
- 18 (7) The Commissioner of Public Health;
- 19 (8) The Commissioner of Children and Families;
- 20 (9) The Child Advocate;
- 21 (10) The chairpersons and ranking members of the joint standing
22 committee of the General Assembly on the judiciary;
- 23 (11) The chairperson of the Commission on Children;
- 24 (12) The chairperson of the Permanent Commission on the Status of
25 Women;
- 26 (13) The chairperson of the Latino and Puerto Rican Affairs
27 Commission;
- 28 (14) The chairperson of the African-American Affairs Commission;
- 29 (15) A municipal police chief appointed by the Connecticut Police
30 Chiefs Association; and
- 31 (16) Seven public members appointed as follows: The Governor
32 shall appoint one member who shall represent Connecticut Sexual
33 Assault Crisis Services, Inc.; the president pro tempore of the Senate
34 shall appoint one member who shall represent an organization that
35 provides civil legal services to low-income individuals; the speaker of
36 the House of Representatives shall appoint one member who shall
37 represent the Connecticut Coalition Against Domestic Violence; the
38 majority leader of the Senate shall appoint one member who shall
39 represent an organization that deals with behavioral health needs of
40 women and children; the majority leader of the House of
41 Representatives shall appoint one member who shall represent an
42 organization that advocates on social justice and human rights issues;
43 the minority leader of the Senate shall appoint one member who shall
44 represent the Connecticut Immigrant and Refugee Coalition; and the

45 minority leader of the House of Representatives shall appoint one
46 member who shall represent the Asian-American community.

47 (c) The chairperson of the Permanent Commission on the Status of
48 Women or the chairperson's designee shall schedule the first meeting
49 of the task force, which shall be held not later than sixty days after the
50 effective date of this section. The task force shall select a chairperson
51 from among its membership. The Permanent Commission on the
52 Status of Women shall provide any necessary support staff or services
53 for the task force.

54 (d) The task force shall:

55 (1) Collect and organize data on the nature and extent of trafficking
56 in persons in the state;

57 (2) Investigate collaborative models for protecting victims of
58 trafficking;

59 (3) Measure and evaluate the progress of the state in (A) preventing
60 trafficking, (B) protecting and providing assistance to victims of
61 trafficking, and (C) prosecuting persons engaged in trafficking.

62 (4) Identify available federal, state and local programs that provide
63 services to victims of trafficking that include, but are not limited to,
64 health care, human services, housing, education, legal assistance, job
65 training or preparation, interpreting services, English as a second
66 language classes, voluntary repatriation and victim's compensation;

67 (5) Evaluate approaches to increase public awareness of trafficking;

68 (6) Analyze existing state criminal statutes for their adequacy in
69 addressing trafficking and, if such analysis determines that those
70 statutes are inadequate, recommend revisions to those statutes or the
71 enactment of new statutes that specifically define and address
72 trafficking; and

73 (7) Consult with governmental and nongovernmental organizations

74 in developing recommendations to strengthen state and local efforts to
75 prevent trafficking, protect and assist victims of trafficking and
76 prosecute traffickers.

77 (e) All state and local agencies shall cooperate with the task force
78 and provide such data and other information as the task force may
79 require in carrying out its duties under this section.

80 (f) The task force shall report its findings and recommendations to
81 the General Assembly in accordance with section 11-4a of the general
82 statutes not later than January 1, 2006.

This act shall take effect as follows:	
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2004</i>

JUD *Joint Favorable Subst.*

LM *Joint Favorable*